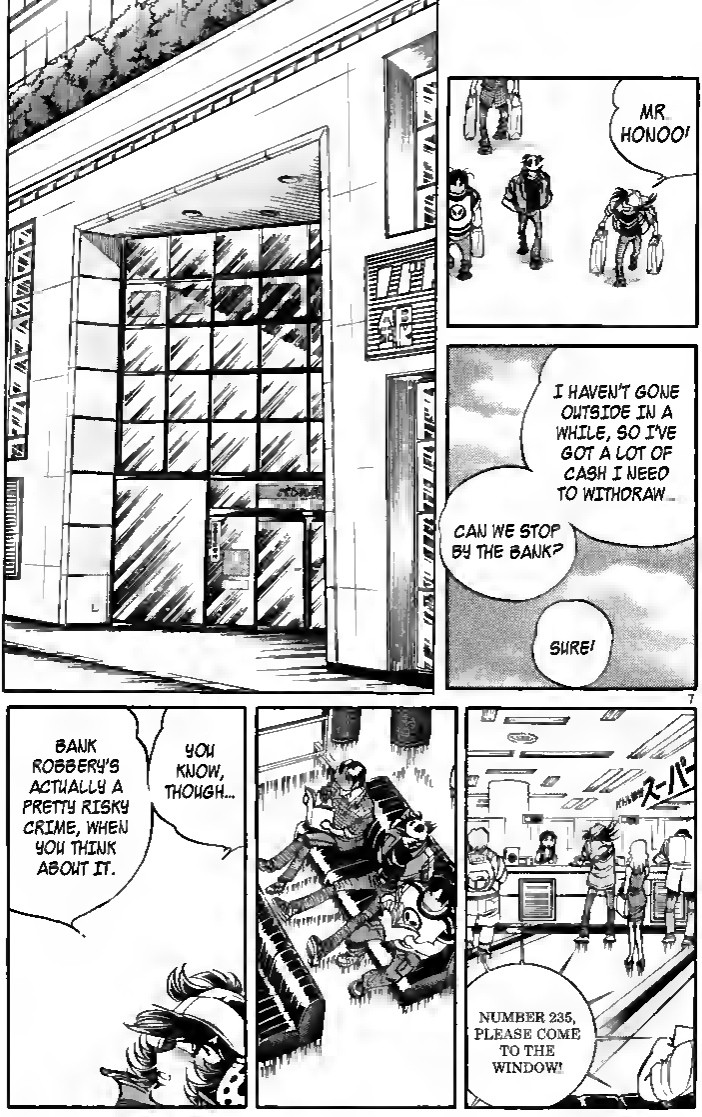
CHAPTER 3: PROTECT THAT WORK'S LIFE!!

利回りで安全・成金
スーパー定期
THIS BANK IS NOW UNDER THE CONTROL OF "FIRE PROJECT"!!
EVERYONE, SHUT YOUR MOUTHS!!

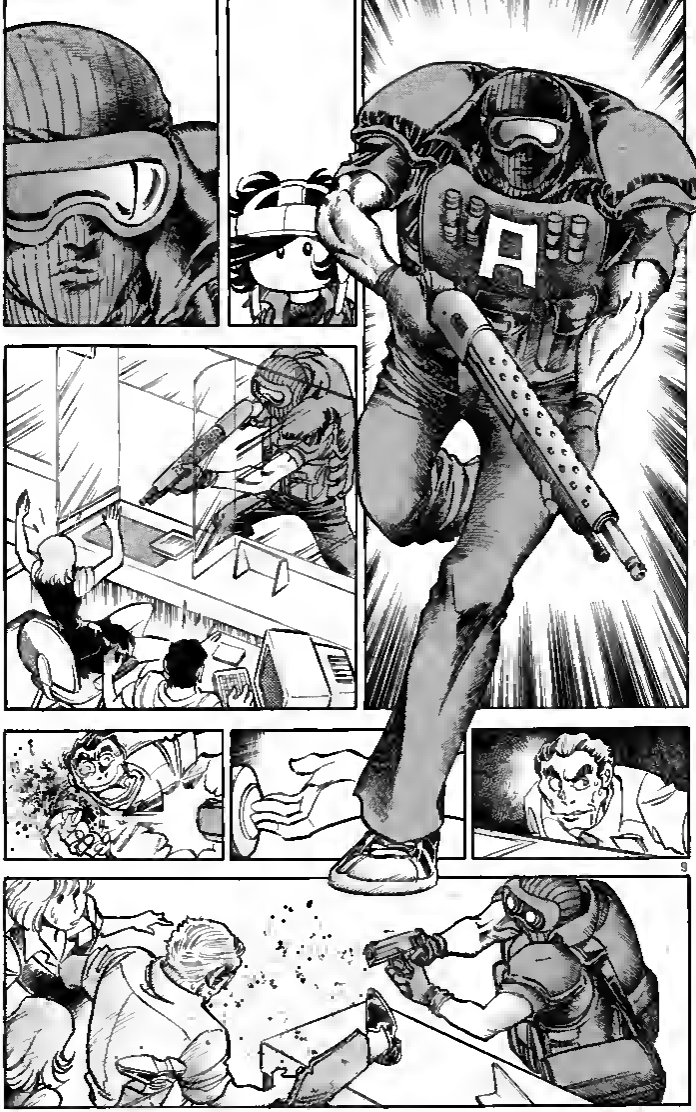
DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD...
STOP!
S...
WHY?
OH, I SEE... YOU MAY NOT KNOW THIS, BUT THIS BANK IS ACTUALLY...
WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS...!?
WHY WOULD SOMEONE LIKE YOU STOOP TO THIS, CHOJO TAKASHI...?
4
ゴゴゴゴ
OR WE'LL HAVE TO SHUT YOUR MOUTH FOR GOOD!

LOOK OUT!
SO YOU'VE FINALLY SHOWN YOUR TRUE COLORS, HYPER BRANCH MANAGER!!
CAME TO SAVE US...
...HE
CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!
THERE !!
ARE YOU DONE THE STORYBOARDS YET, MR. HOWOO!?
YEAH! ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THE SUBTITLE...
5

ESCAPE FROM HELL'S BANK
"ESCAPE FROM HELL'S BANK!!" PART ONE!
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!
ALRIGHT, WE'LL BE TAKING THIS!
THANKS
OHHH! IT'S DONE! CLAP CLAP CLAP...
6
SIGN BLAZING PRODUCTIONS
炎プロダクション
OKAY!!
LET'S GO GET SOMETHING TO EAT, AND PICK UP A FEW REFERENCE MATERIALS ON THE WAY.!
AND WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME
OKAY. IT'S A LOVELY DAY OUTSIDE...
SINCE THINGS AT WORK HAD SETTLED DOWN A LITTLE, HE DECIDED TO GO OUT INTO TOWN FOR A BREATHER, AND TO STOCK UP ON REFERENCES.
THIS MAN IS THE MANGA ARTIST NAMED HONOO MOYURU!! HE'S JUST YOUR AVERAGE MANGA ARTIST!


MR. HONOO!
I HAVEN'T GONE OUTSIDE IN A WHILE, SO I'VE GOT A LOT OF CASH I NEED TO WITHDRAW...
CAN WE STOP BY THE BANK?
SURE!
7
BANK ROBBERY'S ACTUALLY A PRETTY RISKY CRIME, WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT.
YOU KNOW, THOUGH...
スーパー
NUMBER 235, PLEASE COME TO THE WINDOW!

GOOD POINT...
ONCE YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY THE POLICE, THERE'S NO REALISTIC WAY TO ESCAPE...
AND I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT THE SUCCESS RATE IS ALL THAT HIGH..
YEAH, IT KIND OF GIVES OFF THE FEELING THAT "I'VE GOT NOTHING TO LOSE".
I GUESS THAT JUST GOES TO SHOW THAT CRIME DOESN'T PAY...
WELL...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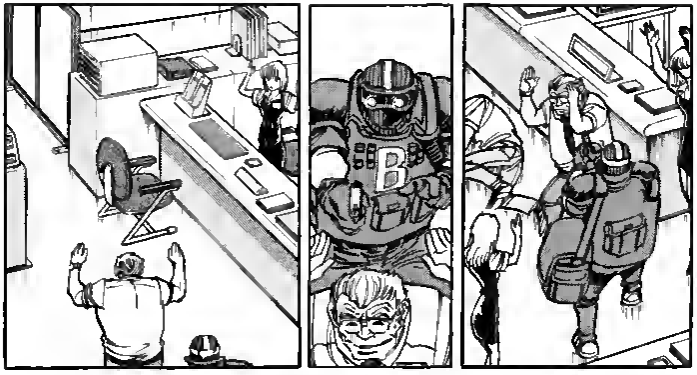

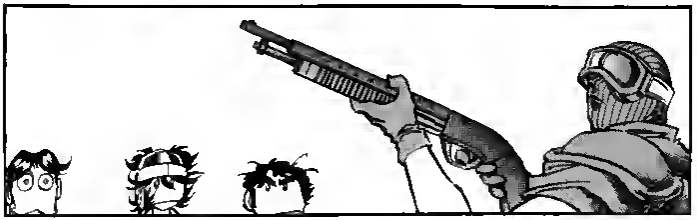

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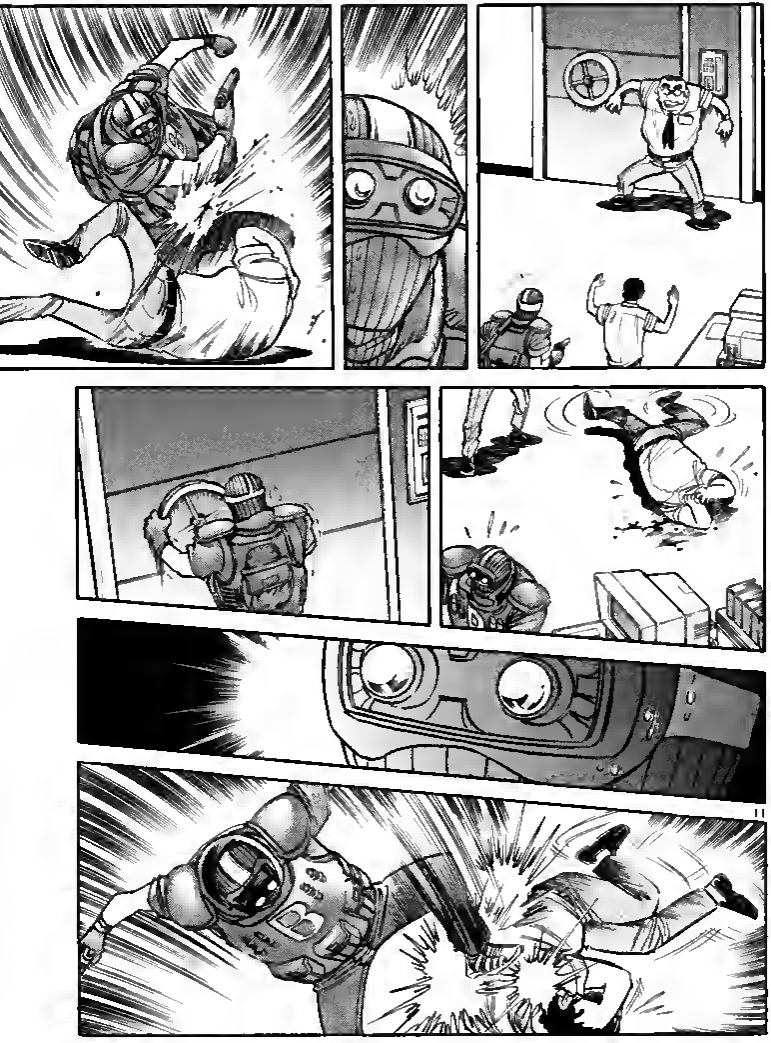


!!
JUST HAPPENED BEFORE OUR EYES...!
TH...THIS HIGH-RISK CRIME...
!!
AHH! THOSE ARE POLICE SIRENS..
AND I'M GUESSING THINGS DIDN'T GO AS THEY PLANNED...
12
...EVERYONE PUT YOUR HANDS ON YOUR HEAD AND GET DOWN ON THE GROUND!!
WE'RE GONNA HOLE UP IN HERE UNTIL THE VAULT OPENS TOMORROW MORNING!!

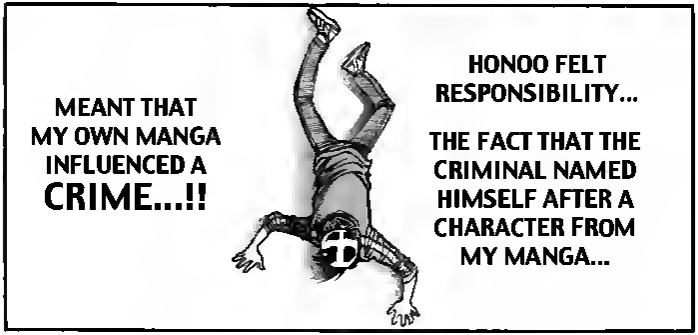
AND WE'RE TAKING OVER THIS BANK!!
WE ARE "FIRE PROJECT" !!

13

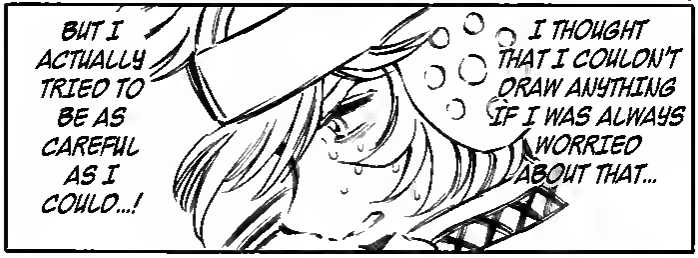
WHAT'D YOU JUST CALL YOUR-SELVES !?
WH...

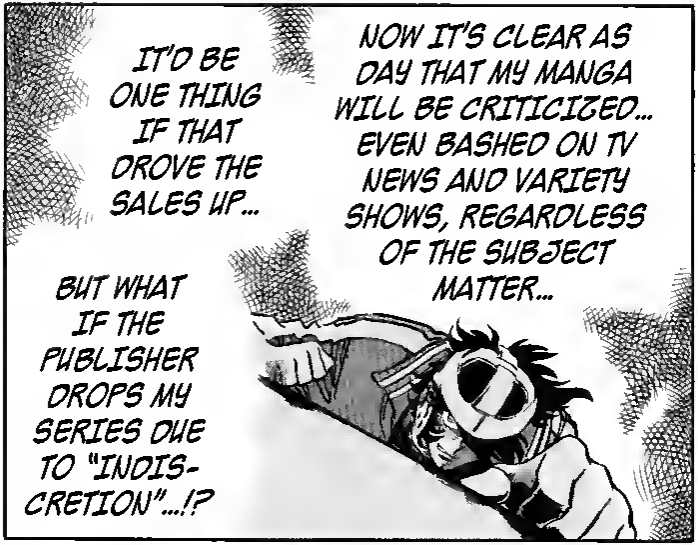
BACK OFF!!
DOWN ON THE GODDAMN GROUND!!
YOUR NAME'S ...
Y...
I'M THE LEADER, CHOJO TAKASHI!
MR. HONOO!
MR. HONOO ...
14
NO, HE PROBABLY JUST RIPPED OFF HIS NAME FROM YOUR MANGA...
I'LL BET HE IS!
A FAN OF MY MANGA!?
Y...YOU THINK HE'S A FAN?

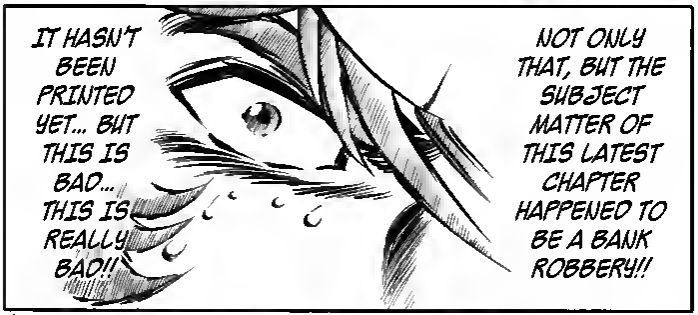
I'LL BET HE JUST PICKED THE NAME FROM YOUR MANGA BY COINCI-DENCE!!
IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN PRINTED YET...
B...BUT I JUST TURNED IN THE BANK ROBBERY CHAPTER...


MEANT THAT MY OWN MANGA INFLUENCED A CRIME...!!
HONOO FELT RESPONSIBILITY...
THE FACT THAT THE CRIMINAL NAMED HIMSELF AFTER A CHARACTER FROM MY MANGA...

15

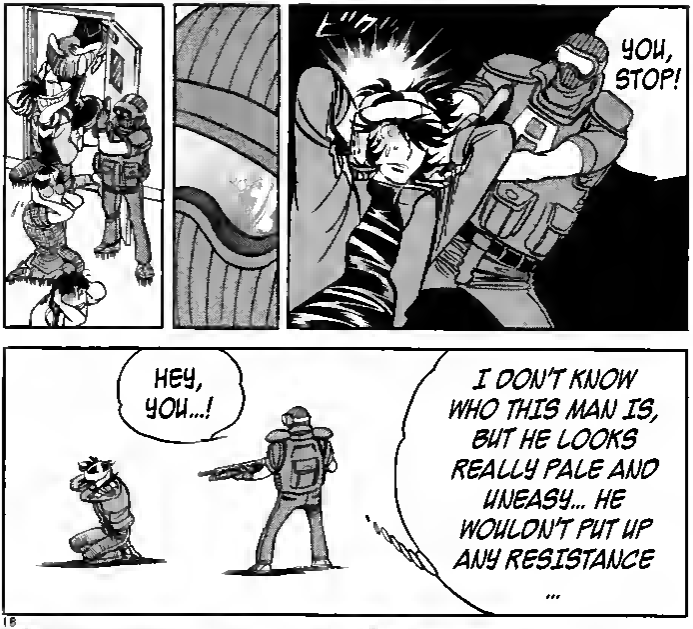

BUT I ACTUALLY TRIED TO BE AS CAREFUL AS I COULD...!
I THOUGHT THAT I COULDN'T DRAW ANYTHING IF I WAS ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT THAT...


IT'D BE ONE THING IF THAT DROVE THE SALES UP...
NOW IT'S CLEAR AS DAY THAT MY MANGA WILL BE CRITICIZED... EVEN BASHED ON TV NEWS AND VARIETY SHOWS, REGARDLESS OF THE SUBJECT MATTER...
BUT WHAT IF THE PUBLISHER DROPS MY SERIES DUE TO "INDISCRETION"...!?


IT HASN'T BEEN PRINTED YET... BUT THIS IS BAD... THIS IS REALLY BAD!!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS LATEST CHAPTER HAPPENED TO BE A BANK ROBBERY!!

IF YOU TELL THEM WHO YOU ARE, THEY MIGHT SET US FREE...!!
MR. HONDO, I BET THEY'RE FANS OF YOURS!

THEY WOULDN'T LET US BE THE ONLY ONES TO GET AWAY...!!
NO... AS LONG AS THEY'RE USING THE NAME "FIRE PROJECT",
.....
EVERY-ONE, UP ON YOUR KNEES!!
OKAY.. YOU AND YOU, STAY HERE!
17
ズゼ ズゼ ズゼ ズゼ
MOVE, MOVE, MOVE!
EVERYONE ELSE, GET INTO THE NEXT ROOM!!


YOU, STOP!
HEY, YOU...!
I DON'T KNOW WHO THIS MAN IS, BUT HE LOOKS REALLY PALE AND UNEASY... HE WOULDN'T PUT UP ANY RESISTANCE ...

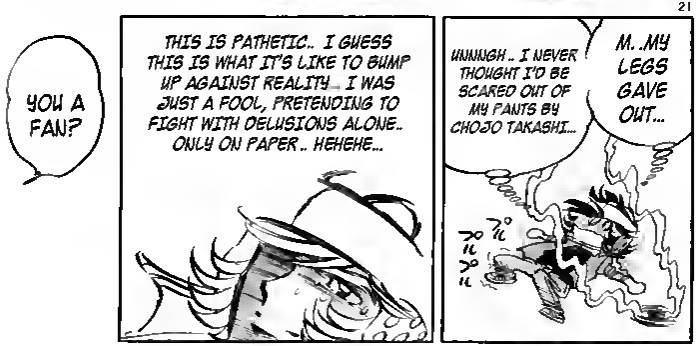
STRIP THOSE TWO GIRLS DOWN AND TIE 'EM UP SO THEY CAN'T ESCAPE!!
!!

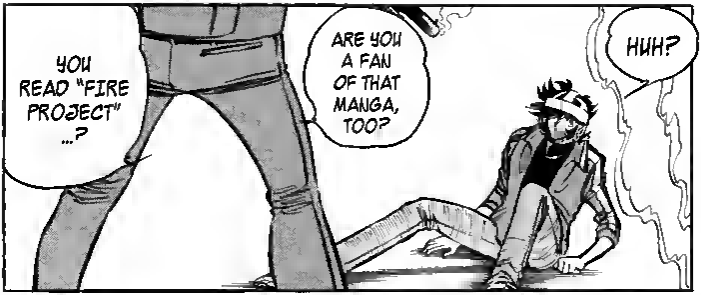
DO IT NOW!!
IN WHAT ORDER!?
I...
WHICH GIRL DO I START WITH!?
WHICH GIRL...

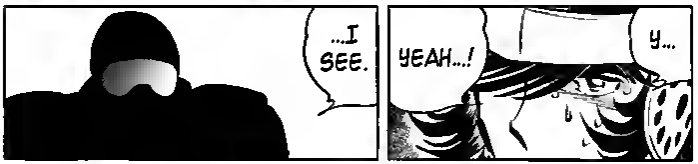
YOU CAN'T !!
ANY-THING BUT THAT...
!!
WHAT!?
THAT'S THE LAST THING...

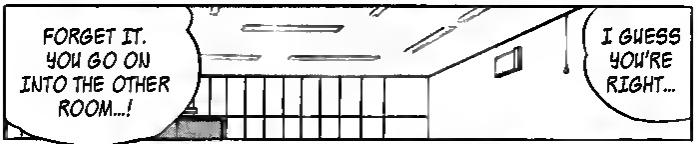
THAT'S THE LAST THING ...

AUUU UGH!?
チェビィーー!!


M..MY LEGS GAVE OUT...
UHHUGH.. I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE SCARED OUT OF MY PANTS BY CHOJO TAKASHI...
THIS IS PATHETIC.. I GUESS THIS IS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BUMP UP AGAINST REALITY... I WAS JUST A FOOL, PRETENDING TO FIGHT WITH DELUSIONS ALONE.. ONLY ON PAPER.. HEHEHE...
YOU A FAN?


YOU READ "FIRE PROJECT" ...?
ARE YOU A FAN OF THAT MANGA, TOO?
HUH?


...I SEE.
YEAH...!
Y...


FORGET IT. YOU GO ON INTO THE OTHER ROOM...!
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT...

ARE YOU ALRIGHT !?
MR. HONOO!

22

MY MANGA SERIES IS GOING TO BE DESTROYED, ALL BECAUSE OF THOSE TWO BANK ROBBERS...!!
IT'S OVER...
IT'S ALL OVER...!

BUT IMAGINE WRITING A PART TWO TO "ESCAPE FROM HELL'S BANK" AFTER THIS INCIDENT IS OVER...
YEAH, THAT'S HOW IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE...
MANGA'S DIFFERENT FROM REALITY ...!
BUT MR. HONOO!
HE'S RIGHT...
CAN YOU IMAGINE A SERIES WITH MORE INDISCRETION...?
EVEN IF THE SUBJECT MATTER ISN'T LIKE THAT AT ALL...!
"FIRE PROJECT" WOULD TURN INTO A THRILLER MODELLED AFTER ACTUAL, DESPICABLE EVENTS..
23

LET'S WRITE PART TWO RIGHT HERE AND NOW, MR. HONDO!!
!!
IF THE INCIDENT'S STILL GOING ON, THERE'S STILL TIME!!
PLUS, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, YOU'RE THE VICTIM AT THE MOMENT!!
AND FORTUNATELY WE HAVE ALL OF OUR TOOLS!
!!
24
I'LL PROTECT THE BANKERS
AND THE CUSTOMERS!!

BECOME AN ABOMINABLE INCIDENT, EVEN IF I HAVE TO GIVE MY LIFE FOR IT!!
I WON'T LET THIS INCIDENT...
HERO !!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M THINKING!!
THAT'S A REFERENCE TO "ULTRAMAN GAIA"!
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING!?
"AS LONG AS I CAN LOOK COOL AS I DIE..."

...OKAY... LET'S DO THIS...!!

25

YEAH!!
YEAH! WE'LL PROTECT "FIRE PROJECT" OURSELVES!!
WE'RE NOT GONNA LET THEM KEEP US DOWN!

ばたっ ばたっ ばたっ ばたっ
I TOLD YOU TO STAY DOWN ON THE GROUND!!
I'LL BET HE'LL FLY THROUGH THE STORYBOARDS IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES...
LET'S START PREPPING WHILE MR. HONOO'S DOING THE STORYBOARDS!
GOTCHA !!
ガサガサ
OKAY, LET'S DO THIS!!
WHAT? ALREADY!? YOU'RE ALREADY DONE!?
THE STORYBOARD'S DONE!! ON TO THE ARTWORK!
26
I'LL START ON THE BACKGROUNDS!
OKAY, ONE DOWN!

INFLUENCED BY YOUR MANGA TO COMMIT THIS CRIME!?
ARE YOU REALLY THE MANGA ARTIST THAT DRAWS "FIRE PROJECT"!?
WERE THOSE ROB-BERS...
I OVER-HEARD WHAT YOU WERE SAYING
H-HEY, YOU THERE!!
27
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE DRAWING MANGA!!
AN-SWER ME!
WHAT KIND OF MANGA IS IT, ANYWAY!?
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'VE DONE!?

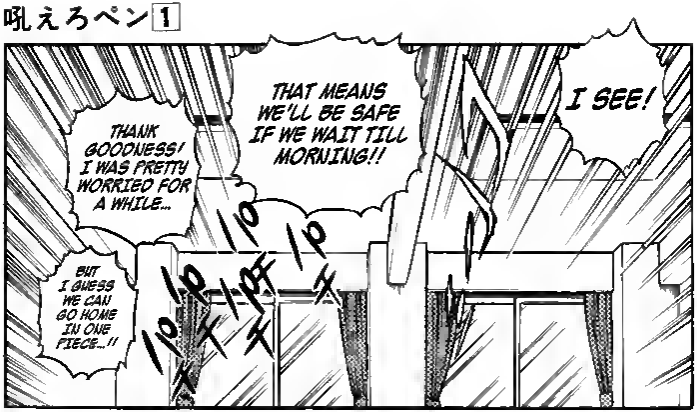
I GUESS, IN A WAY, HE'S RIGHT...
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE DRAWING MANGA...!!

28

BUT! I WILL DRAW ANYWAY!!
IT COULD BE THAT THERE'S NEVER A SINGLE MOMENT IN LIFE WHEN IT IS TIME TO BE DRAWING MANGA...!!!

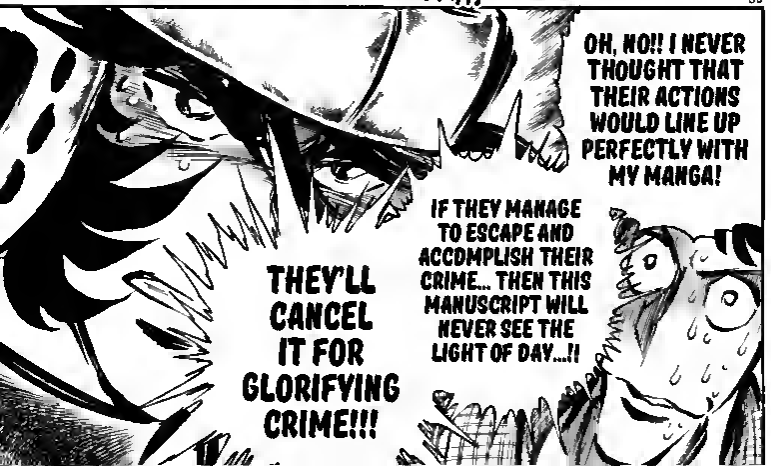
LET ME SEE THAT!!
!!
THEN THE TWO ROBBERS ENTER THE VAULT ON PURPOSE...
THE BANK ROBBERS WAIT UNTIL DAWN, AND OPEN THE VAULT...
WHAT HAPPENS IN IT!?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MANAGER?
TELL US!
23
BUT THEY OPENED THE VAULT TO FIND...
THINKING THEY HAD MANAGED TO CORNER THE ROBBERS, THE POLICE TAKE FORMATION CONFIDENTLY OUTSIDE THE VAULT...
KA-P!

AND TODAY, THEY PRETENDED TO BE TRAPPED INSIDE,
Hi' Hi'' Hi''
THE ROBBERS HAD DUG UNDERNEATH THE VAULT AHEAD OF TIME...
VAULT
CONCRETE
SOIL
SEWER
DAMN! THEY GOT US!
THAT THERE WAS AN ESCAPE TUNNEL IN THE MIOOLE OF THE FLOOR!!
TAKE AS MUCH MONEY AND VALUABLES FROM THE VAULT AS THEY COULD...
WHILE THEY USED EXPLOSIVES TO BLOW A HOLE IN THE VAULT FLOOR...
30
OHHHHHHH!
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS!
AND MAKE THEIR ESCAPE!


I SEE!
THAT MEANS WE'LL BE SAFE IF WE WAIT TILL MORNING!!
THANK GOODNESS! I WAS PRETTY WORRIED FOR A WHILE...
BUT I GUESS WE CAN GO HOME IN ONE PIECE...!!
ピピピ

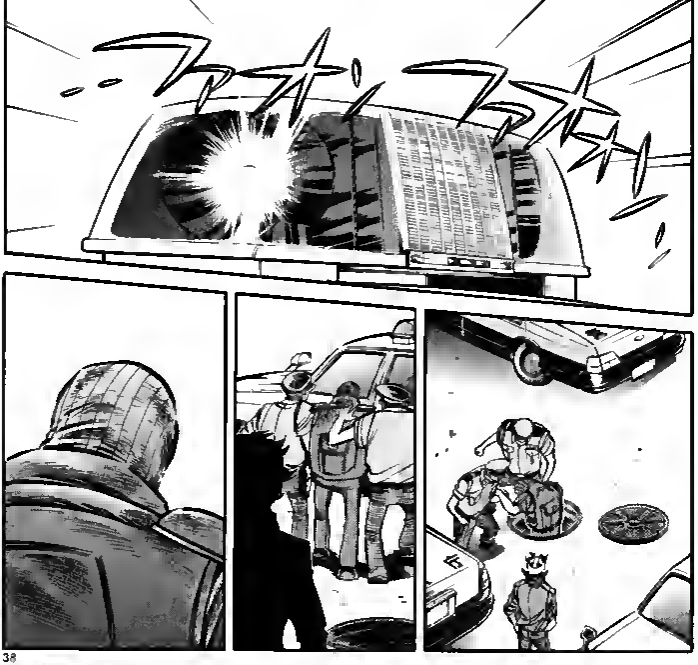
IT'S TIME! BRANCH MANAGER, GET OUT HERE!!
!?
THE CRIM-INALS ACT!?
HOW WILL...
. NOW, WHAT WILL THEY DO...?
MAN-AGER !!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MANAGER !?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

HEY, MANGA ARTISTS! EVERYTHING HAPPENED JUST LIKE YOU SAID... OR RATHER, DREW!!
THEY WENT INTO THE VAULT WITH THESE HUGE BAGS, AND LOCKED THEMSELVES IN..!
THEY WON'T BE COMING BACK AGAIN!
HOORAY!
THAT MEANS WE'RE FREE!!
ALRIGHT!
HOORAY!
WE'RE SAFE!!
YEAH!
YEAH!


OH, NO!! I NEVER THOUGHT THAT THEIR ACTIONS WOULD LINE UP PERFECTLY WITH MY MANGA!
IF THEY MANAGE TO ESCAPE AND ACCOMPLISH THEIR CRIME... THEN THIS MANUSCRIPT WILL NEVER SEE THE LIGHT OF DAY...!!
THEY'LL CANCEL IT FOR GLORIFYING CRIME!!!

LET'S GO, YOU GUYS!!
YEAH!!
THERE'S NO TIME TO EX-PLAIN!!
OUTTA THE WAY !!
TO THE BASE-MENT!!
THEY'RE PROBABLY HEADING FOR THE SEWERS RIGHT UNDER US...!!
34
35
142
143

YAAAAA
AAAAAA
HHHHHH
HHHHHH
HHHHH
HHH!!!



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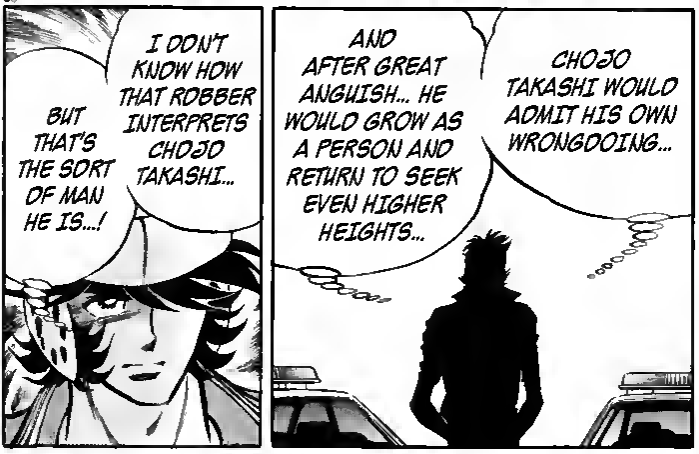
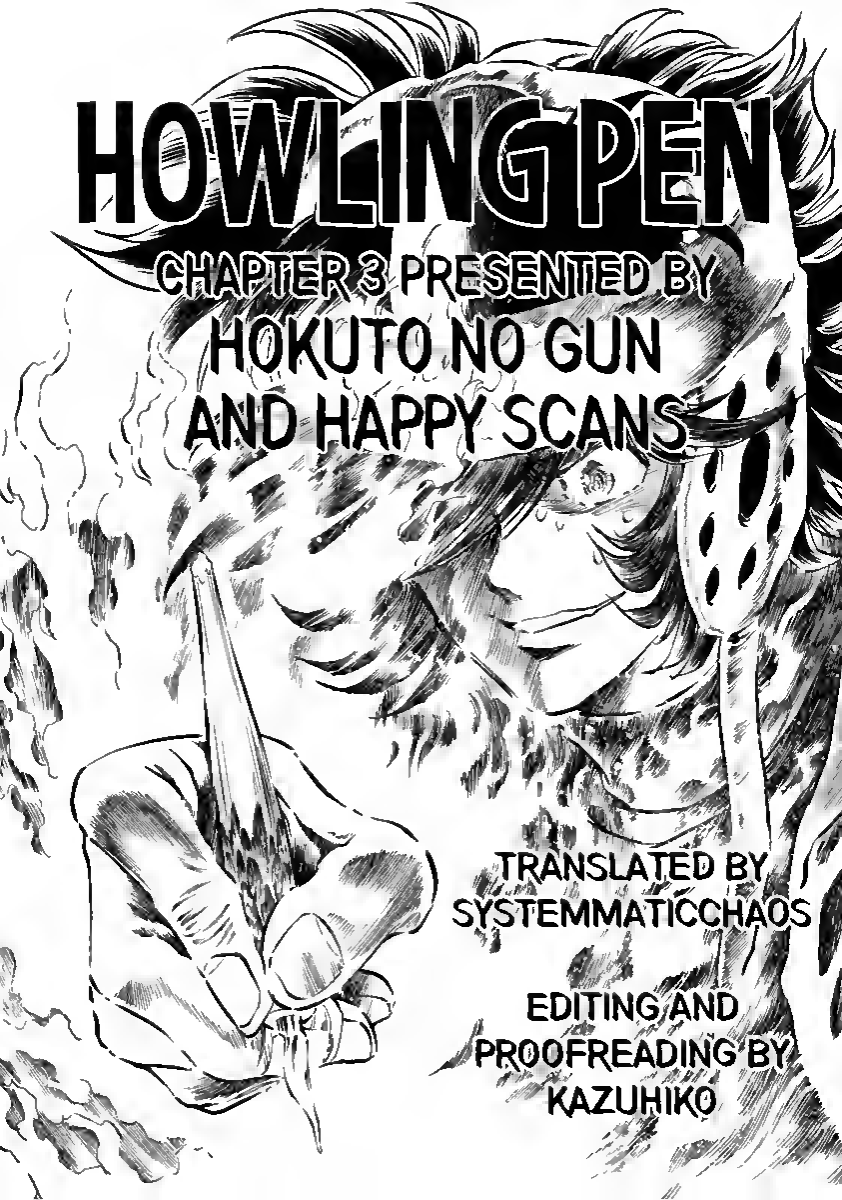

I DON'T KNOW HOW THAT ROBBER INTERPRETS CHOJO TAKASHI...
BUT THAT'S THE SORT OF MAN HE IS...!
AND AFTER GREAT ANGUISH... HE WOULD GROW AS A PERSON AND RETURN TO SEEK EVEN HIGHER HEIGHTS...
CHOJO TAKASHI WOULD ADMIT HIS OWN WRONGDOING...

SO
AND I'LL KEEP ON SENDING THAT MESSAGE...
KEEP READING...!!
39
MANGA!!
MY

AS LONG AS IT'S NOT CANCELLED!!

AFTER THIS INCIDENT, HONOO MOYURU'S "FIRE PROJECT" WAS DISCUSSED ON TV, AND HONOO MOYURU WAS A BIT PEEVED BY THEIR COVERAGE, BUT HE DIDN'T LOSE HIS MOTIVATION, AND THE SERIES AVOIDED CANCELLATION. NOBODY KNOWS WHETHER THE TWO BANK ROBBERS READ THE MANGA ANY FURTHER, OR WHETHER THEY TURNED THEIR LIVES AROUND BECAUSE OF IT...


HOWLING PEN
CHAPTER 3 PRESENTED BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY
SYSTEMMATICCHAOS
EDITING AND
PROOFREADING BY
KAZUHIKO